

I thank the chair.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the order of June 15, 1999, the Senate having received from the House of Representatives the bill H.R. 2465, all after the enacting clause of H.R. 2465 is stricken, and the text of S. 1205, as amended, is inserted in lieu thereof.

Under the previous order, H.R. 2465 is read the third time, and passed, and the motion to reconsider is laid on the table.

The bill (H.R. 2465), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate insists on its amendment and requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on H.R. 2465, and the Chair is authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The Presiding Officer appointed Mr. BURNS, Mrs. HUTCHISON of Texas, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. KYL, Mr. STEVENS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. BYRD conferees on the part of the Senate.

MEASURE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED—S. 1205

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, passage of S. 1205 is vitiated, and the bill is indefinitely postponed.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 13, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,625,005,258,555.97 (Five trillion, six hundred twenty-five billion, five million, two hundred fifty-eight thousand, five hundred fifty-five dollars and ninety-seven cents).

One year ago, July 13, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,528,489,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred twenty-eight billion, four hundred eighty-nine million).

Five years ago, July 13, 1994, the Federal debt stood at \$4,624,337,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred twenty-four billion, three hundred thirty-seven million).

Ten years ago, July 13, 1989, the Federal debt stood at \$2,800,206,000,000 (Two trillion, eight hundred billion, two hundred six million).

Fifteen years ago, July 13, 1984, the Federal debt stood at \$1,534,369,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred thirty-four billion, three hundred sixty-nine million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,090,636,258,555.97 (Four trillion, ninety billion, six hundred thirty-six million, two hundred fifty-eight thousand, five hundred fifty-five dollars and ninety-seven cents) during the past 15 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 916. An act to make technical amendments to section 10 of title 9, United States Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2465. An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read the first and second times and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1569. An act to prohibit the use of funds appropriated to the Department of Defense from being used for the development of ground elements of the United States Armed Forces in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia unless that deployment is specifically authorized by law; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The following concurrent resolution, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 88. Concurrent resolution urging the Congress and the President to increase funding for the Pell Grant Program and existing Campus-Based Aid Programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read twice and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1654. An act to authorize appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-4191. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Performance Standard for Diagnostic X-ray Systems; Amendment" (Docket No. 98N-0877), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4192. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to the Anti-Bribery and Fair Competition Act of 1998, the annual report dated July 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4193. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia: Approval of Revisions to Coal Preparation Plants and Coal Handling Operations" (FRL # 6372-3), received July 7, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4194. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Halogenated Solvent Cleaning" (FRL # 6376-5), received July 7, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4195. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans Tennessee: Approval of Revisions to the Tennessee SIP Regarding National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants and Volatile Organic Compounds" (FRL # 6378-4), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4196. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities; New York" (FRL # 6378-4), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4197. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report

of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Approval of Clean Fuel Fleet Substitution Program Revision" (FRL # 6378-3), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4198. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Air Act Direct Final Approval of Title V Prohibitory Rule as a State Implementation Plan Revision; Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, California" (FRL # 6378-5), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4199. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Regulations on Lump-Sum Payments for Annual Leave", received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4200. A communication from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4201. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Amendments to Deferred Maintenance Reporting"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4202. A communication from the Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4203. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Attacking Financial Institution Fraud: Fiscal Year 1996"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4204. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Defense Manpower Requirements Report for Fiscal Year 2000"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4205. A communication from the Under Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to export licenses for commercial communications satellites and related items for the period February 26, 1999 to May 21, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1248. A bill to correct errors in the authorizations of certain programs administered by the National Highway Traffic Administration (Rept. No. 106-107).

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. Res. 138. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. Res. 139. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 1362. A bill to establish a commission to study the airline industry and to recommend policies to ensure consumer information and choice; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1363. A bill for the relief of Valdas Adamkus, President of the Republic of Lithuania; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1364. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to increase public awareness regarding the benefits of lasting and stable marriages and community involvement in the promotion of marriage and fatherhood issues, to provide greater flexibility in the Welfare-to-Work grant program for long-term welfare recipients and low income custodial and noncustodial parents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (by request):

S. 1365. A bill to amend the National Preservation Act of 1966 to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1366. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreation River on land owned by the New York State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1367. A bill to amend the Act which established the Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 1368. A bill to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and related laws to strengthen the protection of native biodiversity and ban clearcutting on Federal land, and to designate certain Federal land as ancient forests, roadless areas, watershed protection areas, special areas, and Federal boundary areas where logging and other intrusive activities are prohibited; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DODD, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1369. A bill to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 1370. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the time for payment of the estate tax on certain timber stands; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GORTON:

S. 1371. A bill to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel Ocean Pride; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. Res. 138. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. Res. 139. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. Res. 140. A resolution congratulating the United States women's soccer team for winning the 1999 Women's World Cup, recognizing the important contribution of each individual team member to the United States and to the advancement of women's sports, and inviting the members of the United States women's soccer team to the United States Capitol to be honored and recognized by the Senate for their achievements; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 1362. A bill to establish a commission to study the airline industry and to recommend policies to ensure consumer information and choice; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

TRAVEL AGENT COMMISSIONS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill that will establish a commission to study the future of the travel agent industry and determine the consumer impact of airline interaction with travel agents.

Since the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 was enacted, major airlines have controlled pricing and distribution policies of our nation's domestic air transportation system. Over the past four years, the airlines have reduced airline commissions to travel agents in an competitive effort to reduce costs.

I am concerned the impact of today's business interaction between airlines and travel agents may be a driving force that will force many travel agents out of business. Combined with the competitive emergence of Internet services, these practices may be harming an industry that employs over 250,000 Americans.

This bill will explore these concerns through the establishment of a commission to objectively review the emerging trends in the airline ticket distribution system. Among airline